

I am totally opposed to this proposed "Broadcast flag" which would limit the ability of a private consumer to use broadcast materials in the privacy of their own home in any manner not consistent with the profit motivations of "hollywood industry". A long time ago, there was a case tried in the United States, in which a private citizen was being charged with improper use of a broadcast signal. As I recall, the courts essentially ruled that the signal, if publically broadcast, could be used in any manner consistent with existing law, and that the broadcasters were not entitled to any further legal remedies. What has happened to change that precedent?

In addition, this flag is "preventive", based on the assumption that damage will be done to the industry if this measure is not enacted. Generally, legal principles have been remediative -- correcting problems which are proven after the fact. Even were the Broadcast Flag a good idea, which I do not concede, it is premature, as no proof of damages has been established.

The US Government has no business assisting private industry in enforcing monopolies, or in perpetuating markets for private industry.

-Scott